UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/708,477	11/09/2000	Yasuhiro Hino	35.C14921	1778

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EXAMINER
TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2624	

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	**Applicant(s)**
Office Action Summary	09/708,477	HINO, YASUHIRO
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Douglas Q. Tran	2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _26 May 2005_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-3 and 5-16_ is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-3,5-13,15 and 16_ is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) _14_ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

DOUGLAS Q. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1.   Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as **"means"** and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

2.   The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because a lot of "means" appear on the abstract. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4.   Claims 1-3, 5-13 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Austin (U.S. Patent No. 5,689,625).

As to claim 1, teaches an image processing apparatus comprising:

storage means (i.e., a database) for storing user profiles for a plurality of users, the user

profiles containing information for adjusting the output of a printjob; input means for inputting

the print job (i.e., set of image data), the print job containing a plurality of printing objects (i.e., a

set of image data would including a plurality of objects); and adjustment means for specifying a

user who instructs the print job according to printjob information and adjusting an object of the

plurality of printing objects on the basis of a user profile from the user profiles. the user profile

corresponding to the specified (col. 6, lines 23-30: the set of image data is processed by the

document processing system. Therefore, the print job including a plurality of objects are adjusted

by the user profile).

As to claim 2, Austin discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and further teaches of

said adjustment means performs tone adjustment for each printing object (col. 6, lines 26-30

describes the set of image data is processed by the document processing system. Thus, it would

be inherently that the document processing system would adjust tone for subset of image data).

As to claim 3, Austin discloses every feature discussed in claim 2, and further teaches

said adjustment means performs tint adjustment if the printing object is a color object and

performs density adjustment if the object is a monochrome object (col. 6, lines 26-30 describes

the set of image data is processed by the document processing system. Thus, it would be

inherently that the document processing system would perform tint adjustment if the printing

object is a color object and performs density adjustment if the object is a monochrome object).

As to claim 5, Austin teaches the user profile holds a value for every color component

(col. 6, lines 23-30 describes the set of image data is processed by the document processing

system. Thus, it would be inherently that the document processing system would perform color adjustment based on the user profile).

As to claim 6, Austin teaches the profile holds a ratio for a reference value for each color component (col. 6, lines 23-30 describes the set of image data is processed by the document processing system. Thus, it would be inherently that the document processing system would perform color adjustment ratio based on the user profile).

As to claim 7, Austin teaches the representation of the color components depends on an RGB format and a gray scale format (col. 6, lines 23-30 describes the set of image data is processed by the document processing system. Thus, it would be inherently that the document processing system would perform color adjustment based on the user profile. It is noted that color components would inherently include RGB and gray scale format).

As to claim 8, Austin teaches instruction input means for inputting a user instruction used for updating the user profile content (it is noted that the user profile is for each user. Therefore, user profile content would be inherently updated by each user via input means).

As to claim 9, Austin teaches display means for displaying the content of the user profile(it is noted that the user profile is for each user. Therefore, user profile content would be inherently updated by each user via input means. Therefore, the content of the user profile would be displayed on the display means).

As to claim 10, Austin teaches output means (i.e., printer 20 in fig. 1 for outputting the print job) for outputting the print job processed by said adjustment means (col. 6, lines 23-30).

As to claim 11, Austin teaches said output means (i.e., printer 20 in fig. 1 for outputting the print job on the recording sheet) forms a visible image on a recording medium.

As to claim 12, Austin teaches output means for outputting plural sample images which indicate different color adjustment results; and selection means for selecting one sample image from among the plural sample images, wherein the content of the user profile is updated on the basis of the selected sample image (col. 6, lines 23-30).

As to claim 13, Austin teaches the print job is instructed by using an E-mail, and the user is specified by sender information of the E-mail (fig. 11 indicates a lot of kind of networks. Therefore, using an Email for instructing the print job and the user is specified by sender information of the Email would be inherently) .

As to claim 15, Austin teaches the method be performed by the apparatus claim 1 as indicated above.

As to claim 16, Austin teaches the program for performing the method claim 15 as indicated above.
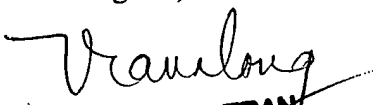
Allowable Subject Matter

5.   Claim 14 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7442 or E-mail address is douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Aug. 05, 2005

DOUGLAS Q. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER